



# Sudden Oak Death

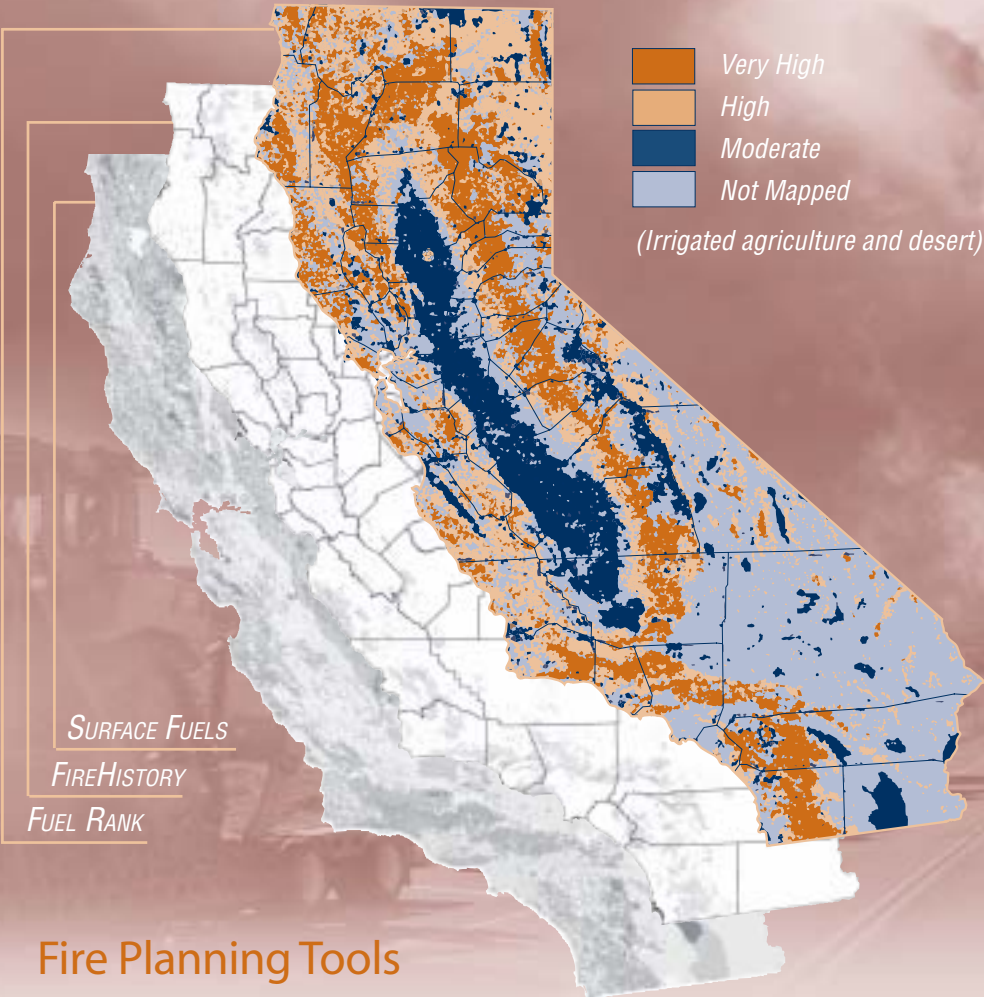
Since its discovery in July of 2000, Phytophthora ramorum, the pathogen known to cause Sudden Oak Death, can now be found in six CDF Units and one CDF contract county. It has spread to 12 California counties, state and federal parks, and now has 17 known hosts. Through the California Oak Mortality Task Force, which was formed by the Board of Forestry and Fire

Protection in August 2000, CDF has been able to provide training to those in the regulatory community as well as to those whose organizations are impacted by the regulations. Media contacts, educational outreach materials, and town hall meetings are some of the venues CDF has accessed to distribute messages to the general public on Sudden Oak Death and the role they can play in reducing the artificial spread of this disease. The Department has worked closely with the California Department of Food and Agriculture, USDA-Forest Service, local agricultural commissioners, and USDA Animal Plant Health Inspection Service to develop consistent state and federal regulations. In response to the adoption of statewide regulations in May, 2001, CDF immediately called for SOD mitigations to be written into all Timber Harvesting Plans. In addition, CDF has restricted wood cutting to species not affected by SOD and has implemented a cleaning policy for all CDF vehicles leaving regulated areas to insure that host plant material is not transported out of the area. We are only beginning to understand the basic biology of this new disease. As research continues, regulations and mitigations are likely to change as well as impacts to CDF, such as regulation enforcement and equipment operations.

# Jackson Demonstration State Forest Management Plan

CDF has 8 demonstration State forests totalling 71,000 acres

In November 2002 CDF celebrated a great milestone in the approval of the Jackson Demonstration State Forest (JDSF) Management Plan by the state Board of Forestry and Fire Protection. This plan was almost six years in the making by the State Forest and resource management foresters. Not only is JDSF the Department's largest and most varied state forest, it is one of few places in the country where scientists can conduct forest research over long periods of time. This plan details how CDF will manage its streams, archaeological, botanical, and late seral forest resources, while meeting a mandate of demonstrating to landowners and the public options for sustaining timber, vegetation, recreation, water quality and habitat through good forest management practices. In a pioneering move, JDSF and the State Department of Parks and Recreation designated a block of 13,000 acres specifically to demonstrate how to restore old growth forest for the future. Research on JDSF will test whether light management can accelerate the development of habitat needed by endangered species, and compare it to control plots on newly acquired state park land on our southern border.



## Fire Planning Tools

Every part of California's wildland is at some risk of wildfire, but how can fire planners better evaluate the risks between one area and another? How can we assess where to locate fire suppression resources in the most cost effective way? How can we identify the communities at highest risk of fire, and then target fuel management projects where they will do the most good? A multi-year project between the CDF Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP) and US Forest Service has recently produced three new maps which will be used in implementing the California Fire Plan – an analytical framework for reducing the costs and losses of damaging wildfires. The *Surface Fuels* map aggregates vegetation data into 12-15 fuel classes by applying fire models that reflect slope, fire weather, ladder fuels and other factors that influence fire behavior. The *Fire History* map compiles in one place the boundaries of all major wildfires in the state since 1950. The *Fuel Rank* map presents the overall synthesis, in which every part of the state is classified into a Moderate, High or Very High fuel ranking.

Although the three-color ranking system looks deceptively simple, it is based on a sophisticated level of detail and intensive research. The maps will play a key role in everything from evaluating fire suppression capacity to targeting areas for fuel treatments and reducing fire risk in wildland communities.

To fully appreciate the detail of these maps and learn more about the methods used to generate the data please refer the CDF FRAP website at: <http://frap.cdf.ca.gov/data/frapgismaps/select.asp>. To learn more about the California Fire Plan, please see: [http://frap.cdf.ca.gov/fire\\_plan/fireplan.pdf](http://frap.cdf.ca.gov/fire_plan/fireplan.pdf) and <http://www.fire.ca.gov/FireEmergencyResponse/FirePlan/FirePlan.asp>.

## CDF Administrative Facilities

<b>CDF State HQ</b> 1416 9th St. Sacramento 94244-2460 916-653-5121	Tehama-Glenn Unit 604 Antelope Blvd. Red Bluff 96080 530-529-8548
Northern Region HQ 135 Ridgway Ave Santa Rosa 95402 707-576-2275	Southern Region HQ 1234 East Shaw Ave. Fresno 93710 559-222-3714
Northern Region Operations Center 6105 Airport Rd. Redding 96002 530-224-2445	Southern Region Operations Center 2524 Mulberry St. Riverside 92501 909-782-4140
Humboldt-Del Norte Unit 118 N. Fortuna Blvd. Fortuna 95540-2796 707-725-4413	Amador-El Dorado Unit 2840 Mt. Danaher Rd. Camino 95709 530-644-2345
Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit 1199 Big Tree Rd. Helena 94574 707-963-3601	Fresno-Kings Unit 210 So. Academy Ave. Sanger 93657 559-485-7500
Mendocino Unit 17501 N. Highway 101 Willits 95490 707-459-7414	Madera-Mariposa- Merced Unit 5366 Hwy 49 North Mariposa 95338 209-966-3622
San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit 6059 Highway 9 Felton 95018 (Drawer F-2) 831-335-5353	San Benito-Monterey Unit 2221 Garden Road Monterey 93940-5385 831-333-2600
Santa Clara Unit 15670 Monterey St. Morgan Hill 95037 408-779-2121	Tulare Unit 1968 So. Lovers Lane Visalia 93277 559-732-5954
Butte Unit 176 Nelson Ave. Oroville 95965 530-538-7111	Tuolumne-Calaveras Unit 785 Mtn. Ranch Rd. San Andreas 95249 209-754-3831
Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit 13760 Lincoln Way Auburn 95603 530-823-4904	Riverside Unit 210 W. San Jacinto Perris 92570 909-940-6900
Lassen-Modoc Unit 697-345 Highway 36 Susanville 96130 530-257-4171	San Bernardino Unit 3800 Sierra Way San Bernardino 92405 909-881-6900
Shasta-Trinity Unit 875 Cypress Ave. Redding 96001 530-225-2418	San Diego Unit 2249 Jamacha Rd. El Cajon 92019 619-590-3100
Siskiyou Unit 1809 Fair Lane Rd. Yreka 96097 530-842-3516	San Luis Obispo Unit 635 No. Santa Rosa San Luis Obispo 93405 805-543-4244



## 2002 YEAR IN REVIEW

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION



## Mission Statement

*The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection protects the people of California from fires, responds to emergencies, and protects and enhances forest, range, and watershed values providing social, economic, and environmental benefits to rural and urban citizens.*



## 2002 – Rising to the Challenges

### Director's Message



Our mission is a challenging one. Our responsibilities are great - protecting lives, property and natural resources on over 31 million acres of California's privately-owned wildlands, and providing emergency services of all kinds in 35 of the State's 58 counties. Year after year the men and women of this Department rise to the challenges placed before them. 2002 was no different.

This Year in Review provides a brief overview of the challenges and highlights of CDF's 2002 including:

- A fire season that began in early February and continued through December with over 7,600 fires burning nearly 118,000 acres on State Responsibility Area;
- Emergency evacuation planning for visitors and homeowners in thousands of acres of standing dead trees due to bug kill throughout three Southern California counties;
- Responding to heightened homeland security status by staffing emergency command centers, tightening security for our aviation fleet and equipment, and coordinating evacuation drills in state-owned buildings;
- Culminating six years of hard work with approval of a new sustainable management plan for our largest demonstration state forest, including a 13,000 acre area designated for old growth forest research;
- Organizing the campaign to eradicate Exotic Newcastle Disease in Southern California as assistance to the California Department of Food and Agriculture;
- Supporting the outstanding men and women of CDF on the fire lines, in the forests, and in the administrative offices, in spite of the tightening state budget.

2003 will bring many of the same issues. To meet them, we will continue to strengthen partnerships with our local and federal government allies as they face many of the same challenges. And we will continue to meet our mission as we have since the inception of this Department.

*Andrea E. Tuttle*

Andrea E. Tuttle  
Director, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

## State Responsibility Area (SRA)

The State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection classifies areas in which the primary financial responsibility for preventing and suppressing fires is that of the state. These include: lands covered wholly or in part by timber, brush, undergrowth or grass, whether of commercial value or not; lands which protect the soil from erosion, retard run-off of water or accelerated percolation; lands used principally for range or forage purposes; lands not owned by the Federal government; and lands not incorporated.

By Board regulations, unless specific circumstances dictate otherwise, lands are removed from SRA when housing densities average more than 3 units per acre over an area of 250 acres.

CDF has SRA responsibility for the protection of over 31 million acres of California's privately-owned wildlands.



Governor Gray Davis signs the Executive Order augmenting California's fire fighting resources.

## Governor's Executive Order

In spite of the tough economic times facing the State last June, Governor Gray Davis announced a tremendous augmentation to CDF resources. Facing extreme dry conditions in the south, and recognizing the success of last year's augmentation in the north, CDF was authorized additional funding for a fourth firefighter on southern CDF engines, staffing for four additional inmate crews, stationing an additional helicopter in San Diego, staffing 10 refurbished fire engines in the south, and 10 lookouts in the north. This proactive prevention paid off as the graphs on the next page show. In announcing the augmentation at a ceremony with Office of Emergency Services Director Dallas Jones and CDF Director Tuttle, the Governor demonstrated his tremendous support for CDF in his speech. "I want to say a few words about the brave men and women who fight our fires on the frontline. Firefighters stand ready at a moment's notice to risk life and limb when the alarm bell rings. Once again this summer, they're putting it all on the line against nature's most destructive force. These men and women are heroes. And I want them to know that I'm committed to making their job as safe as possible."

## 2002- FIRE SEASON

The 2002 fire season saw more than 7 million acres of wildland burn in the United States. The nation watched the raw force of wildfire and the dangers faced by the men and women who fought it. CDF's national fire fighting partners suffered the tragic loss of several pilots and firefighters. The extreme dryness of Southern California mirrored that in the intermountain west, and CDF saw those effects. The Department's 2002 Fire Season began with the Gavilan Fire in San Diego County on February 10. Santa Ana winds drove the flames through 43 homes and 5,763 acres, an ominous sign for firefighters and homeowners in California. San Diego County was hit again six months later when CDF's most damaging incident, the Pines Fire, ignited on July 29. More than 61,000 acres burned and 160 structures were destroyed as hillsides literally exploded due to thick, bone dry vegetation. Crews battled the flames for 19 days before gaining the upper hand with costs exceeding \$25.8 million.

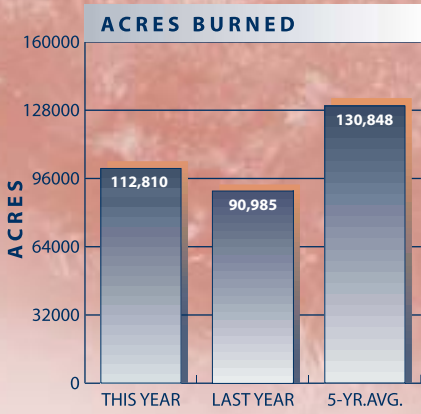
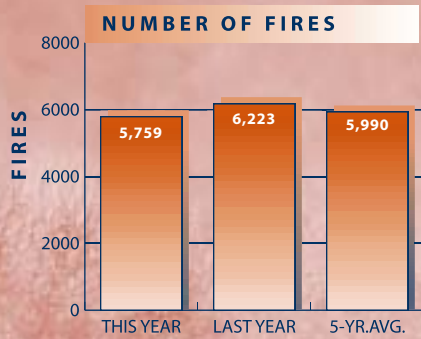
With fire fighting this aggressive, safety was everyone's priority – and CDFers again showed that they know their business, keeping the injury rate low on the fire lines. Three CDF firefighters from the Tuolumne-Calaveras Unit were seriously injured responding to a fire near Lytle Creek in San Bernardino County when their engine careened over a freeway embankment and fell 60 feet to a ravine below. Another firefighter suffered severe burns when he fell into a burning stump hole while mopping up on the Croy Fire in Santa Clara County. The entire Department is grateful that they all well are on the road to recovery, and some have already returned to work.

As winter rains began, on November 13, 2002 all CDF Units north of Tulare County were able to begin transitioning out of summer staffing. Fire season

continued for Units in Southern California well into December before weather patterns changed enough to allow CDF to transition to winter staffing levels.

### 2002 LARGEST CDF FIRES

Fire Name County	Start Date	Containment Date	Acres Burned	Structures Destroyed	Cause
Pines San Diego	7/29/02	8/16/02	61,690	160	Powerlines
Gavilan San Diego	2/10/02	2/15/02	5,763	43	VMP Burn
Mussolini Siskiyou	7/13/02	7/16/02	3,260	0	Equip. Use
Croy Santa Clara	9/23/02	9/28/02	3,127	34	Elec. Power
Davis San Luis Obispo	6/9/02	6/9/02	2,118	0	Rekindle



## CDF RESOURCES

CDF Units – 21  
CDF Fire Stations – 229  
Local Government Fire Stations (operated by CDF via contract) - 405  
Conservation Camps – 40

Permanent Personnel – 3,800  
Seasonal Personnel – 1,400  
Local Government Volunteer Firefighters (organized by CDF) – 5,600  
Inmates, Wards, Conservation Corps Members – 4,300  
Volunteers In Prevention (VIPs) – 2,600

CDF Fire Engines – 370  
Local Government Fire Engines (operated by CDF via contract) – 689  
Bulldozers – 60  
Mobile Kitchen Units – 11  
Mobile Communication Centers - 5  
Airtankers – 23  
Helicopters – 9  
Air Attack Planes – 13

## Cooperative Alliances

Because wildfire risks are shared by all agencies in the State, CDF has developed cooperative working relationships with a variety of partners in order to accomplish common goals. Key partners include the California Fire Alliance and the California Fire Safe Council. Key objectives are those outlined in the California Fire Plan and the National Fire Plan which both place emphasis on reducing the risk of wildfire destruction, contributing to ecosystem health, and increasing firefighter safety by taking action long before a fire starts.

The Fire Alliance membership includes: The Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, California Fire Safe Council, CDF, Governor's Office of Emergency Services, LA County Fire Department, National Park Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the US Forest Service. The Alliance, through its members, works with communities at risk from wildfire to develop community based planning, provide leadership, and facilitate the development of community fire loss mitigation plans. These activities often transcend jurisdictions or ownership boundaries. Universal information and education plans are also developed to increase the awareness of wildland fire prevention.

The California Fire Safe Council is a non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve natural and man-made resources by mobilizing people to make their homes, neighborhoods, and communities fire safe. Members include government agencies, conservation, building, real estate, utilities, range, agriculture, insurance, air quality and other organizations. The Council is a statewide umbrella organization with more than 100 local Fire Safe Councils in California's at-risk communities. Many local projects are funded with National Fire Plan money.



## Office of the State Fire Marshal

In response to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the CDF Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) has worked closely with local fire departments and the California Highway Patrol to coordinate evacuation drills and other security measures in state-owned buildings, as well as implemented homeland security measures. In addition, the State Fire Marshal was appointed to sit on a committee of law enforcement, fire and health leaders to determine how to best distribute funding to each of those disciplines that have major responsibilities in light of any terrorist threats.

In 2002 the Office of the State Fire Marshal was able to finally approve newly implemented fire and life safety standards for the Caltrans building in Los Angeles. Issues surrounding fire and life safety violations in the building had been an OSFM issue for a number of years. The building is now a safe place to work for hundreds of employees. The OSFM also implemented fire and life safety standards on new facilities for the departments of Education, Health Services, CalPers, and Franchise Tax Board in 2002.